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In Remembrance: Zarema Sadulayeva

by Jennifer Risser [Center for International Stabilization and Recovery]

Zarema Sadulayeva, the head of the Chechen charity Let's Save the Generation, and her husband, Alik Dzhabrailov, were found dead on Tuesday, 11 August 2009, in a suburb of Grozny, Chechnya. Sadulayeva and Dzhabailov, both 33 years old, were abducted from their offices on Monday, 10 August 2009, and were found the following day with multiple gunshot wounds.¹ This is not the first time tragedy has struck the nongovernmental organization. In 2005, the former head of LSG, Murad Muradov, was found murdered. Sadulayeva began working for LSG following the murder of Muradov in 2005 and Dzhabailov joined the organization following his marriage to Sadulayeva in 2009.²

Let's Save the Generation was founded in June 2001 and supplies physical and psychological rehabilitation to children with disabilities and victims of landmines. The organization provides prosthetic limbs, funds for surgical operations and counseling for children victimized by the 15-year conflict in Chechnya.² LSG partnered with UNICEF and received funding from the organization from 2004–08. UNICEF worked with LSG to promote the rights of children with disabilities and create greater awareness of landmines in Chechnya. UNICEF also worked with LSG to gather data, provide organizational support and fund mine-risk-education projects. UNICEF did not provide financial assistance to the organization in 2009 due to budget cuts.³

In a statement by the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, Sadulayeva was called a "tireless activist" who was committed to raising awareness about landmines, the rights of landmine victims and people with disabilities in Chechnya.⁴

Zarema Sadulayeva's burial was held on Tuesday, 11 August 2009, in her home village of Shalazhi. In a statement made during her burial, her father, Abdulla Sadulayev, recalled, "She was never driven by money or riches, and honestly fulfilled her mission."⁵ ➡

Endnotes

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